



Rattlesnake Creek Fire

July 27, 2018

Daily Update 9:00 a.m.



Fire Information Line: 208-495-6934

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5999>

Facebook: Rattlesnake Creek Fire

Follow Emergency Evacuation Information on: Idaho County Sheriff's Office Facebook Page or the Adams County Sheriff's Office Facebook Page

Incident Commander: Mike Almas, Northern Rockies Incident Management Team

Size: estimated 3,139 acres

Containment: 0%

Cause: Under Investigation

Location: Near mile marker 184 on Highway 95

Structures destroyed: 0

Total Personnel: 421, including 12 hand crews, 17 engines, 2 dozers, 8 water tenders, and 4 helicopters

A public meeting will be held on Friday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m. MDT/ 5:00p.m. PDT at the Salmon River High School in Riggins.

The Rattlesnake Creek Fire was first reported Monday, July 23rd and is a potential threat to numerous structures in the vicinity of Pollock, Idaho. Mike Almas' Type 2 Incident Management Team began managing the fire at 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 25.

Crews continued to make significant progress on the direct hand line on the northern flank on Thursday, getting close to tying into the dozer line that runs along the northwest flank. Crews on the eastern flank continue to improve handline and secure the edges of the fire. Crews are securing dozer and handlines on the southern edge of the fire as conditions permit. Helicopters supported ground crews by cooling hot spots with water drops. Crews along the west side of the Highway 95 corridor continued to assess future structure protection needs.

Managers are continuing to assess the most effective locations to engage the fire, especially on the southern edge where the fire is most likely to spread due to the northwest and terrain driven winds. Crews will perform structure protection along the Highway 95 corridor where necessary and work to keep the fire west of the highway. Air support will continue to be used to cool hot spots and help slow fire spread to the north and south.

Resources Threatened: Private property and structures in the Pollock, Pinehurst and Whitewater Wilderness Ranch Estates areas remain threatened, as well as threats to state and federal infrastructure (Highway 95) and natural resources.

Evacuations and Closures: The Idaho County and Adams County Sheriff's Offices have issued pre-evacuation notices ("Be Set") to residents in the North Pollock, Whitewater Wilderness Ranch Estates, and Pinehurst areas. Residents in the general vicinity should remain vigilant and refer to the Sheriff's Office Facebook pages. The Sheriff's Office has also set up some road and area closures in those areas, to provide for public safety.

Additionally, the Nez Perce-Clearwater and Payette National Forests have area closures in effect, including portions of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA); see <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/nezperceclearwater/alerts-notices> or the closures tab on Inciweb for more details.

Weather & Fuel Conditions: Hot and dry weather conditions expected through the weekend. Dry fuels (especially grasses and fine fuels) will continue to fuel fire spread, driven by light northwest and terrain-influenced winds.

Temporary Flight Restrictions: Temporary flight restrictions (TFR) are in effect around the entire fire area. Remember, that temporary flight restrictions also apply to unmanned aircraft systems (drones), so if you fly, we can't!

Announcements: Smoke and traffic congestion will continue to be potential hazards along the Highway 95 corridor. Please adhere to all safety signage and do not stop along the highway corridor near the fire.

For smoke monitoring information, see Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/air-quality/burning/current-wildfire-smoke-info/> OR

https://tools.airfire.org/monitoring/v4/#/?category=PM2.5_nowcast¢erlat=42¢erlon=-95&zoom=4.